



BAHS Digital Newsletter

Issue 8

8th April 2022

www.bahs.uk

Welcome

Welcome to this issue of the Blakeney Area Historical Society digital newsletter. This newsletter is sent to all current and past members plus individuals who have signed up to our information emails.

In this newsletter, along with much else, we have articles on:

- A Norfolk Miscellany from Sylvia Claxton's Scrapbooks
- A Tale of Two Buses
- More on the Sea Fencibles and the doomed sloop Nelly

The editor would like to thank all those who have provided contributions to this and previous issues as they make it possible to publish the newsletter. Contributions are always welcome and may be sent to the editor at any time and we will endeavour to publish in one of the upcoming issues.

Printing: A few days after the digital newsletter is published a copy is placed on the website. If you wish to print the newsletter it is best to use the one on the website.

Feedback: If you have any thoughts on how the newsletters may be improved, please let us know by emailing info@bahs.uk.

Finally, before you settle down to read the newsletter, please note that information contained in the newsletter is copyright of the author and is published as provided and with their permission. Despite best efforts, the occasional mistake may slip through. If so, please blame the editor not the contributors.

Richard Daley, Editor

2022 Lectures

The 2022 series of lectures continues with:

- Tuesday 26th April at 7:30pm
The King of the Norfolk Poachers and his life story edited by Liliias Rider Haggard
by Charlotte Paton.

The Society then has its summer break before restarting in September with the following programme:

- Tuesday 27th September at 7:30pm
Manifestations of Madness: Women's Voices from the Norfolk County Lunatic Asylum by Julie Jakeway.
- Tuesday 25th October at 7:30pm
19th century industrial activity in Norfolk and its market towns by Adrian O'dell.
- Tuesday 29th November at 7:30pm
Norfolk Born: the development of the tank and the outstanding role of Elliot Hotblack in WW1 by Caroline Holland and Eric Hotblack.

All lectures will be at Cley Village Hall at the time stated above. If possible, they will run simultaneously on Zoom so those who cannot attend in person may do so online.

Please visit www.bahs.uk/activities/events/planned-events for further details and updates.

Recorded Lectures

Lectures that have been recorded may be viewed by visiting

www.bahs.uk/activities/events/lecture-recordings.

Donations

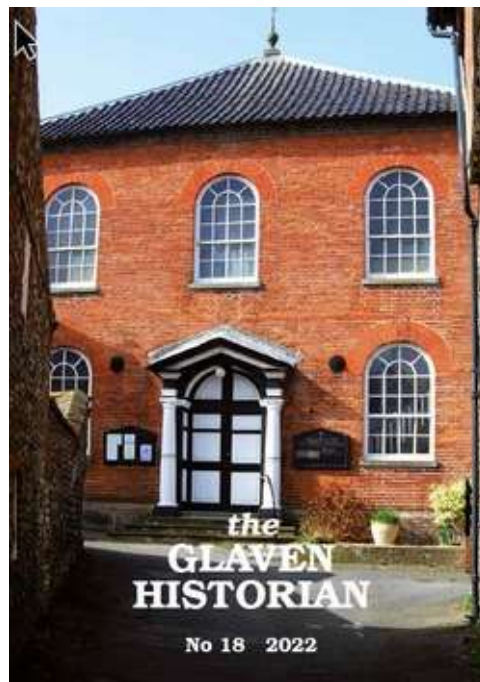
When the Society restarted lectures in Cley Village Hall the Committee decided to continue making lectures available at the same time on Zoom and also, when possible, to provide a copy on the website for viewing later. The Committee recognised that we had been charging those attending in person to attend whilst those watching online didn't pay which seemed inequitable.

Lectures are currently running at a loss and this has been compounded by the additional costs for a better microphone system and webcam plus other purchases to improve the online experience.

If you do watch online then please consider making a donation to bank account Blakeney Area Historical Society, account number 18327968, sort code 30-94-34.

Richard Daley

Glaven Historian 18



Glaven Historian 18 will be published this summer and it promises to be a bumper issue. Among the articles received are two articles by Margaret Bird, the first on the coming of the Methodists to Cley and its surrounding area (see the above photo), and the second on the local sea fencibles at the time of the Napoleonic wars, about which Margaret gave a fascinating talk to the Society last autumn. These articles both arise from the extensive research she undertook for her monumental 4 volume work on Mary Hardy her World, a trove of information about life in this area in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, published last year (<https://www.burnham-press.co.uk/mary-hardys-world>).

There will also be two articles from another old friend of the Society, Jonathan Hooton: one is on the disastrous summer storm of 1833, when no fewer than 17 vessels were wrecked or damaged off our coast, while Jonathan's second article is on an abortive proposal to build a pier harbour at Blakeney in 1835.

Richard Jefferson tells the story of two unsung 19th century maritime heroes from Cley, Howard Brett of Cley Rocket Company and William Hibbert of the Coast Guard.

We will also put together the notes John Wright published in earlier issues of this newsletter about Robert Brereton of Blakeney, assistant to I K Brunel, the great Victorian engineer. John is also submitting a review of the definitive publication of the excavations that took place at Blakeney Eye about 15 years ago on the site of what is thought to have been a medieval chapel near the entrance to the harbour.

Roger Bland

Glaven Historians' Complete TOC

Thanks to the help of Serica East the website now has a table of contents covering all 17 issues of the Glaven Historian. On the website it is possible to search the TOC using terms of interest to help find relevant articles. The search uses all the information in the TOC but, to all intent and purposes, relies on the title of each article and any synopsis provided.

The TOC may be found at www.bahs.uk/publications/glaven-historian/glaven-historian-complete-table-of-contents.

Although not easy to read, the example below shows the start of the results returned when searching for the term *map*:

Show 50 entries

Search: map

Issue	Year	Article Title	Author(s)	Page	Synopsis
1	1998	1586 Map of Blakeney Haven and Port of Cley: Part I	J Hooton	3	Since the publication of 'The Glaven Ports' I have once again turned my attention to finding out more about the 1586 map of Blakeney Haven and eventually, perhaps, to track down the original. Although the whereabouts of this map is currently a mystery, more information has come to light about the possible reasons why it was drawn, and this will be the subject of a further article in the next issue of this journal. Meanwhile, discussion about the map is bedevilled by the fact that there are many different copies. The following notes summarise my understanding to date, but this remains 'work in progress' and I should be grateful for any comments or corrections that readers can offer.
2	1999	1586 Map of Blakeney Haven and Port of Cley: Part II	J Wright	3	In the previous issue of this Journal, Jonathan Hooton identified and described all the known copies of the 1586 map of Blakeney Haven - though the whereabouts of the original remain unknown. He also noted that recent work by Dr Andy Wood of UEA had suggested that the map was drawn to provide evidence for a court case to decide whether the Manor of Wighton or the Manor of Cley had the rights of wreck and salvage on Stiffkey sands. This article outlines the nature of the case and presents some information contained in the evidence. The wealth of topographical detail will need to be considered in a separate article.
9	2006	The Map of the Blakeney Haven and Port of Cley - 1586	R Frostick	29	
9	2006	Blakeney's 'Map of the World' in 1568	J Wright	49	An inventory of 1368 shows that Blakeney Church contained a "mappe mundi" a rare possession at that date. Could this

Richard Daley

Accessions Updated

The accessions register records all items given to the Society whether they are original items or copies of documents. John Wright took on the task of updating the accessions register and at the end of 2021 a new version was released with all recent items gifted to the Society now included plus some other changes.

The public version of the accessions register is on the website and may be viewed at www.bahs.uk/history-centre/collection/bahs-accessions/bahs-accessions.

Richard Daley

Community Grant

The Society applied for a community grant from the Blakeney Parish Council (BPC) and are pleased to announce that we were successful. The Society accepted the grant at the Annual Parish Meeting held in March.

This newsletter provides the opportunity for the Society to thank the BPC for this and previous grants and to recognise the support given to the Society over many years. This grant is being used towards introducing Broadband in the History Centre and towards the purchase of the microphone system used for Zoom lectures.

Richard Daley

Internet in History Centre

Blakeney Village hall introduced broadband into the hall at the end of 2021. Following discussions, the Village Hall committee has agreed to the Society 'piggy-backing' off their broadband service. This means that there will not be any monthly costs for the Society and the grant mentioned above has helped, in part, with the upfront costs of network cabling.

The cabling is now completed and WiFi will be introduced soon.

To book an appointment to visit the History Centre please view www.bahs.uk/history-centre/history-centre-openings.

Richard Daley

The Cley 1914-1918 War Project - A second follow up

In the last issue of the newsletter it was announced that Sylvia's scrapbooks had been donated to the Society and that articles in it would appear in future newsletters. This article has been chosen for this issue as an upcoming lecture is on 'The King of the Norfolk Poachers and his life story edited by Lilius Rider Haggard'.

The article, by local author Lilius Rider Haggard, appeared in the Eastern Daily Press in 1954 and was cut out and pasted into Sylvia Claxton's scrapbook. I have been unable to find the article in any books by Lilius Rider Haggard (Norfolk Life, A Norfolk Notebook and A Country Scrapbook) so I believe that this is the first time it has been republished. It gives a beautiful description of the charm of Blakeney in the mid 20th century, much of which remains unchanged today.

Please visit www.bahs.uk/publications/online-publications/a-norfolk-miscellany to read the article, a Norfolk Miscellany.

Michael Archer

A Tale of Two Buses

Back in January 2021, Peter Thatcher, a member of the Wells Local History Society, approached BAHS to check if we had any information about a bus that was parked at Pyes Garage in Blakeney, during the Sixties. We weren't able to help but, as he had already used some Facebook sites, we suggested he tried the Old Blakeney Facebook Group. Subsequently, Peter submitted details about two buses to the Wells History Group. The following article is an expanded version.



Peter passed a Public Service Vehicle test in 1969, in order to help pay his college grant whilst attending a teacher training college in Winchester. As a novice bus driver, one of his first jobs – during the summer holidays – was with Carley Motors of Fakenham. He was joined by a college friend, Trevor, who was a bus enthusiast - famed, in the circles of bus enthusiasts, for his collection of photographs and knowledge of buses.

On arrival at a school playground, they were both excited to find two venerable buses, side by side, waiting to take children back home. The grey bus was driven by Trevor and the older cream and red Bedford bus was assigned to Peter.

Recently, Trevor has attempted to find out more details about the grey bus because it was one of the last half-cab single-deckers in service. Despite his seemingly unlimited knowledge of buses, the only piece of information he unearthed was that Cullings Coaches purchased it as a new vehicle in 1949-50. This meant the bus was approximately twenty years old when Trevor drove it in 1969.

Subsequently, as a result of appealing to Facebook groups, several people shared their memories. It transpired that the photo was taken at Alderman Peel School in Wells and, on closer inspection, the driver* can be seen sitting in the grey bus. It was nicknamed 'Smokey Joe' because it put out plumes when starting up from the cold. Occasionally, it also took people to Holt Cinema where they could watch a Friday night film for 1/- (approx. 5p in today's money)!

Further information came through an internet forum, for Public Service Vehicles, which stated that:

Blakeney Area Historical Society

KVF 262 was an AEC** Regal 9621A with Plaxton C33F body, new to Cullings in March 1950. It was sold by them in November 1960 and passed to North Norfolk Garage Ltd (trading as Pye's Garage) of Blakeney. They became R. C. Smith (trading as Pye's Garage) in January 1967. It remained with Pye's (Smith) of Blakeney until it went to Ben Jordan's scrapyards at Coltishall in November 1970.

Meanwhile, Carley's Bedford (which Peter was driving) also had a story to tell. On the bus's final journey back to Fakenham, with passengers from the Walsingham and Barsham area, it became stuck at the last bus stop. This was in East Barsham, at the beginning of quite a steep hill. The problem was caused when the gear lever jammed in 4th gear which meant there was no chance of getting up the hill.

Conveniently, a red phone-box was nearby and, following a phone call, a Land Rover with mechanics on board came to the rescue. A rope was duly attached from the Land Rover to the bus, and – with the help of some pupils pushing it and the driver slipping the clutch – the bus managed to get up over the hill and back to its garage! There it remained, looking forlorn, until the end of the summer vacation when the scrap-man came along to remove it as, by then, Carley's had ceased trading.

* Drivers included George Hewitt, his son Eddie Hewitt, Chris Wordingham, George Thompson & Jack Cubitt

** AEC = Associated Equipment Company, formerly the London General Omnibus Company

Pye's Garage

In August 2021, a copy of a book about Vivian Harry High was donated to the History Centre, entitled: *Recollections of a North Norfolk Schoolboy & His Second World War Years in India*. It was published by his daughter, Hazel Douglas, following her father's death in 2018, aged 95.

After leaving school, Harry describes how he worked with his father, farming barley in Salthouse. However, in the late 1930's, it was hard to sell this crop and he was encouraged to get another job. He found work at Pye's garage in Blakeney where he helped with 'house-wiring', as electricity had just arrived in the village, alongside various garage jobs. Once war broke out, he continued to work there until he joined the RAF on 3rd September 1942.



Harry, the taller gentleman, on the right at Pye's Garage

Blakeney Area Historical Society

His war time service ended on 15th November 1946 and, having completed an 'application to be taken into employment', he returned to Pye's Garage. By then, it had been sold to a Mr Miller and had acquired the franchise to sell Triumph cars. This was popular with the Americans, based at Sculthorpe.

Harry passed his bus driver test around this time as the garage had bought three buses. They were used to take pupils to schools in Fakenham and Wells, from Blakeney and the surrounding area. This, of course, could tie in with the article above! The grey bus was acquired by Pye's Garage in 1960 and so it is possible that Harry was one of its drivers. His daughter remembers 'that he drove the buses quite a lot and, now and again, would come back home in one, ready for an early start the following day'.

Harry continued working at Pye's until two of his 'workmates' transferred to Cley Garage. When they offered him a job, he duly joined them but there is no record as to when this move took place.



Vivian Harry High (1922 - 2018)

More details of the history of Pye's Garage may be found <https://blakeneygarage.co.uk/history>.

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Diana Cooke

More on the Sea Fencibles and the doomed sloop *Nelly*

Margaret Bird writes:

During my BAHS talk at Cley Village Hall on 30 November 2021 I was conscious that the audience would have liked to hear more about a little-researched topic, the Sea Fencibles of north Norfolk. These men, part of a nationwide organisation, served as a coastal 'Home Guard' at the height of the French invasion threat 1798–1805. I am taking this opportunity to fill in some more details from their records and draw attention to this wonderfully rich, but neglected, resource.

I also told the story of the small Dundee-built sloop *Nelly*, which in her twelve-year career knew only 2½ years of peace. She ended her adventurous life operating out of Blakeney for four years under the ownership of the Letheringsett brewer William Hardy junior (1770–1842), son of the prolific diarist Mary Hardy. I can now add further information about her captain and crew, who lived at Cley until their untimely death. The vessel was shipwrecked in a severe storm in February 1804. She had almost reached the safe anchorage of Blakeney Pit, sheltered by the Point, while on her way home from Newcastle with a cargo of coal and oilcake. All on board perished, including the ship's unnamed boy.



Blakeney Creek just downstream of the Quay, with the modern steel sailing barge Juno of Morston at her mooring. The shallow-drafted 56-ton sloop Nelly could get up to the Quay, her home berth 1800–04 under William Hardy jnr's ownership.

The hour-long illustrated talk, chaired by *The Glaven Historian's* editor Roger Bland, was recorded and edited by the newsletter editor Richard Daley with help from Roger and from the society's chairman Richard Kelham. It is available in full as a video on the BAHS website. The edited question-and-answer session lasts an additional eleven minutes:

To view the recording please visit www.bahs.uk/activities/events/lecture-recordings/recording-privateers-the-press-gang-and-service-in-the-sea-fencibles

The coastal 'Home Guard' in the French wars

The talk described a range of severe pressures on Blakeney and Cley's seafarers in this period, including the danger of being captured by enemy privateers or coerced by the Press Gang (the Impress Service) into service in the Royal Navy.

As I explained in some detail that evening, the Sea Fencibles were volunteers. They were

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recruited from fishermen, merchant seamen, shipwrights, boatbuilders, ropemakers, caulkers, ferrymen and anyone with knowledge of the sea, seamanship and the local coastal marshes. Their task was to repel, or at least impede, an amphibious assault by the enemy until additional help could be summoned. Holding daytime jobs, the members came together weekly for training under senior Royal Naval officers and received pay for each attendance: 2s 6d for petty officers; one shilling for other rates. Attendance was good and numbers high as service protected each man from being pressed into the Royal Navy—a fate feared by all experienced mariners and those in related trades. Norfolk had roughly one thousand in the Sea Fencibles in 1804, out of a total nationwide of 30,000.

Nelly's crew, with the exception of the ship's boy, all formed part of the local Sea Fencible unit at Blakeney and Cley (soon renamed Blakeney and Sheringham). Their drowning is recorded against their names in the voluminous records of the various units in the National Archives (TNA) in London. In my talk I urged any listener with some time to spare and the ability to get to Kew for two weeks or more to delve into these invaluable papers. They are a goldmine for family historians with ancestors in the merchant service and related trades. I list the principal documentary sources for north Norfolk at the end of this article.

The value of the records for family historians

The Sea Fencibles were formed in March 1798 and temporarily stood down in October 1801 following the truce with France. Reactivated in July 1803 on the resumption of hostilities, they were finally stood down in October 1810.

Commanded by serving senior naval officers responsible directly to the Lords of the Admiralty, and not to the North Sea and Channel Fleets, the units are characterised by meticulous record-keeping. We learn names, dates of attendance and levels of pay. Sometimes members' ages are given; also their place of residence and their 'quality': their trade, such as 'pilot', 'fisherman'. There was no upper age limit.

Captain Peter Ribouveau, RN, who died a Vice-Admiral in 1847, commanded the units at Burnham, at Wells and at Blakeney and Sheringham at the height of the invasion crisis in October and November 1803. He received £42 a month. At that time Burnham had 74 men. Of the 88 men on the books at Wells, four were petty officers. Blakeney and Sheringham then had 131 men; no petty officers are listed. In this last unit 38 men could write their names: a 29-per-cent literacy rate. Sometimes more information is given against a name. One might not be present as he was 'at sea', or 'fishing'. Another was absent—'drowned'. In February 1804 King's Lynn had 257 in the Sea Fencibles under Captain (later Vice-Admiral) William Bentinck, RN (1764–1813).

However we have to be wary of the literacy figures when judged by the use of marks against men's names. These could denote not illiteracy but an impatient commanding officer keen to press ahead with training. One can imagine the naval officer's rising tension as dozens of men lined up to pen their names laboriously with an unfamiliar quill. Captain William Henry Tremblett proved to be one such at Cromer. In March 1805 the unit had 76 in attendance. But each and every man was awarded an 'X' against his name. Only the 29-year-old captain himself and his two petty officers were permitted to sign their names. Under a subsequent and more patient CO some of these seeming illiterates could sign their names.

The men exercised through the winter months although invasion was then unlikely to pose a threat. Numbers held up at Blakeney and Sheringham throughout January 1805, when 108 men received pay. The one-shilling payments mounted up. Between 12 October 1803 and 13 December 1805 Captain Bentinck, Superintendent of the Enrolment of Sea

Blakeney Area Historical Society

Fencibles between Cromer and Foss Dyke Wash (in Lincolnshire), disbursed £3427 6s 9d. The Navy Board in Somerset House, beside the Thames, was honouring its commitment to regular payments.

The units recruited seamen from villages along the coast; Morston and Salthouse men would have served in the Blakeney unit. Captain Tremblett listed the Cromer unit's members as coming from Overstrand, Bacton, Happisburgh and Winterton as well as Cromer itself. In just two days on 16 and 17 July 1803 he enrolled 139 men. The Hardys' innkeeper Thomas Thurst, of the White Horse at Overstrand, was one of two petty officers of the unit by March 1805. He could sign his name and was noted as aged 36.

Captain John Coe and the ill-fated sloop *Nelly*

I describe John Coe's role as captain in the fourth volume of *Mary Hardy and her World* (2020), as noted at the end of this article. It also emerges clearly in Mary Hardy's own record of *Nelly's* voyages in the last of the volumes *The Diary of Mary Hardy* (2013). We can see from the Sea Fencible records that Coe and the crew member Richard Randall, both named by the diarist as serving on *Nelly* at the ship's demise, could both sign their names. We can also identify a third member of the crew: John Lynes of Cley, son of the innkeepers John and Edna Lynes at the King's Head at Cley—another Hardy tied house. Coe, Randall and Lynes did not exercise with the unit on the dates 29 January and 5, 12 and 19 February 1804. They would have been at that time on *Nelly's* final voyage along the east coast. The attendance record bears a later annotation. Against their names is written: 'Drowned 12 February'. They are the only seamen listed in the Blakeney and Sheringham unit as drowned that month, confirming the identification.

As far as we know, only one body was recovered. Mary Hardy notes that Richard Randall was carried from Burnham Overy to be buried in Wells churchyard on 16 February 1804, four days after the shipwreck and on the 28th anniversary of his public baptism at Cley. On 13 February William Hardy junior found parts of the wrecked sloop at Stiffkey, including her rigging and mast, together with the box of ship's papers; he salvaged further wreckage on Holkham Beach the following day. Sorrowful searches such as these were common along the treacherous coast.



*Burnham Overy Creek, viewed from the Staithe. The body of *Nelly's* crew member Richard Randall was washed up here three days after the loss of the ship close to Blakeney Pit. Son of Matthew and Alice Randall of Cley, he was 28 years old and a member of member of the local Sea Fencibles.*

[photograph Margaret Bird 2012]

The Lynes family of Cley

John Lynes of *Nelly* was his captain's brother-in-law: John Coe had married nineteen-year-old Hannah Lynes at Cley in 1784. Their children John, Robert and Hannah were baptised there in 1784, 1788 and 1790; only Robert survived the early months of infancy. John Lynes had been baptised there in 1762 and was thus about 41 when he drowned. He married Ann/Anne Mussett (the Revd Robert Thomlinson almost always rendered Ann as Anne even though the person concerned would drop the 'e', as was then common), and their four children were baptised there in 1789, 1791, 1793 and 1795. Two were buried when young, leaving William and Thomas aged fourteen and eleven at their father's death. The widowed Ann Lynes was hired as Mary Hardy's nurse in the diarist's near-fatal illness of 1807–08 on the relatively high wage of three shillings a week, given that she had board and lodging at Letheringsett Hall. Mrs Lynes received £3 4s 6d in total.

John and Edna Lynes kept the King's Head, almost opposite the Customs House, from 1793 until their death on the same day in 1800. Their very legible headstone stands close to the north door of Cley Church. They thus did not live to learn of the tragedy that was to strike their son, daughter and grandchildren.

For those delving further into the archives

Orders for the Sea Fencibles were issued by the Lords of the Admiralty, with pay organised by the Navy Board. The papers are in loose bundles in boxes in the National Archives and, of 2 January 2022, their content has not been uploaded to the internet. The principal records for the story in Norfolk are found under these catalogue references:

ADM 11/14 and 11/15, Admiralty service records: Entry book of orders appointing officers to hired cutters, signal stations and Sea Fencibles 1804–05 and 1805–08;

ADM 28/14 and 28/15 and 28/16, Navy Board: Sea Fencibles pay lists, Cromer to Fosdyke Wash [in Lincs] 1803–04 and 1804–05 and 1805–10;

ADM 28/17 and 28/18, Navy Board: Sea Fencibles pay lists, Southwold to Cromer 1803–05; ADM 28/19 and ADM/20 take the tale to 1810 for this eastern part of the coast.

Margaret Bird

Note

You can read more about the Sea Fencibles and *Nelly* in the fourth volume of Margaret Bird's *Mary Hardy and her World 1773–1809* (Burnham Press, 2020). See more at:

<https://www.burnham-press.co.uk/mary-hardys-world/world-volumes/4-under-sail-and-under-arms>.

The volumes, with the earlier *Diary of Mary Hardy* volumes (Burnham Press, 2013), edited by Margaret Bird, are freely available for public access in the [History Centre](#) at Blakeney and at Holt Library.

NHER moves from Gressenhall

The Norfolk Historic Environment Record is being moved from Gressenhall Museum to various sites in Norwich. They hope to be up and running at their new sites by the beginning of February, pandemic permitting:

- Finds Identification and Recording Service (including Norfolk's Finds Liaison Officer) are based at Shire Hall, Norwich. Please contact finds.recording@norfolk.gov.uk.
- Strategy and Advice Team, for all advice relating to the planning system, are working remotely or at County Hall, Norwich. Please contact <mailto:hep@norfolk.gov.uk>.
- Norfolk Historic Environment Record (including the Norfolk Air Photo Library and NHES Reference Library) – is based at the Archive Centre (NRO), County Hall, Norwich. Please contact <mailto:heritage@norfolk.gov.uk>. They are yet to discuss with the NRO how it could work if visitors wish to look at their records and those in the NRO collections. The NHER and NRO are discrete entities, so at present appointments need to be made to view the different collections separately with the different organisations.
- East Anglian Archaeology publication (EAA) has remained at Gressenhall. Please see contact details on the East Anglian Archaeology website (<https://eaareports.org.uk>)

Telephone numbers for all of their services have remained the same. Andrea Beckham, the Historic Environment Officer, has retained an office at Union House, Gressenhall and can be seen there if it is more convenient. Her number is 01362 869389.

Richard Kelham

Interesting Websites

Holt Society

The Holt Society has produced a video about Holt and its history. Further details at www.theholtsociety.org/holt_film.phpwww.cwgc.org.

English Heritage: London's Blue Plaques

Across the capital over 950 plaques, on buildings humble and grand, honour the notable men and women who have lived or worked in them. You may look up these plaques at <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/blue-plaques>.

Who Do You Think You Are Magazine

The magazine's website contains many features that you can view without needing a subscription.

Further details at <https://www.whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com>.

Free BMD

FreeBMD is an ongoing project, the aim of which is to transcribe the Civil Registration index of births, marriages and deaths for England and Wales, and to provide free Internet access to the transcribed records.

Further details at <https://www.freebmd.org.uk>.

Richard Daley

History Around This Day

4 April 1949

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) treaty signed in Washington, D.C.

7 April 1795

France adopts the metre as the basic measure of length.

7 April 1948

World Health Organization formed by the United Nations.

8 April 1783

Catherine II of Russia annexes the Crimea.

8 April 1944

Russian forces led by Marshal Fyodor Tolbukhin attack the German army in an attempt to win back Crimea, in the southern Ukraine, occupied by the Axis power.

9 April 1806

Isambard Kingdom Brunel born.

10 April 1940

Vidkun Quisling forms National Government of Norway.

Computer Tips & Tricks

This column of the newsletter, whilst not about historical matters, provides tips and tricks that may help in improving your use of your computer and the Internet for historical research and in general.

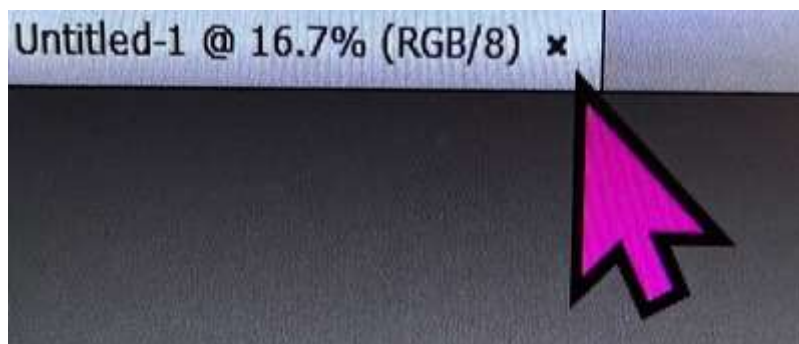
Make My Mouse Bigger...

and more colourful.



I use a lot of different computers and they are all set up slightly differently. A problem I frequently experience is finding the mouse pointer on the screen as it likes to play hide & seek. I remember a cartoon like the one above from the '80s and even today it often feels like the cat has got the mouse. If I can, I make a couple of changes to the mouse set up to make the mouse pointer both bigger and a different colour so that it is more easily spotted.

Below is a somewhat exaggerated view of my mouse pointer:



Knowing you can make these types of changes is often a revelation for many users and searching on the Internet will show up tips on how to achieve this.

If you wish to see how to make the mouse bigger and other changes to your mouse's appearance then visit www.bahs.uk/website-and-computer-tips for guidance on doing this in Microsoft Windows. For the Apple Mac do a search on the Internet for change mouse settings on a mac.

Richard Daley

Non-BAHS Activities

BALH

The Society is a member of the British Association for Local History. The BALH has published a collection of free ten-minute local history talks. Visit <https://www.balh.org.uk/ten-minute-talks>.

They also have some virtual events under their Events tab.

Norfolk & Norwich Archaeological Society

The Society is a member of the Norfolk & Norwich Archaeological Society. Their series of online lectures ended in March and will start again in October however many past talks may be viewed online at <https://www.federation-norfolk.co.uk/home.html>.

Their talks are now listed in the diary of the of Federation of Norfolk Archaeological and Historical Organisations. Visit diary at <https://www.federation-norfolk.co.uk/diary.html>.

Norfolk Record Office

To view Norfolk Record office events please visit <http://www.archives.norfolk.gov.uk> and follow the Events link to Eventbrite (where you need to register for events) and scroll down to see events. Eventbrite is used by many organisations to control access to online talks.

Online History Events

Eventbrite advertise many history events. For details visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/online/history>.

The BAHS

Joining BAHS

If you are not a member and wish to join you may join online or download our membership form from the BAHS website.

[Click here](#) to join.

Information Emails

If you receive this newsletter then you are receiving information emails.

Members automatically receive information emails. Non-members may receive information emails by signing-up.

[Information Emails sign-up](#)

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are due from 1st September for the year 2021/22.

Membership rates are unchanged at:

- Individual £12
- Family £18
- Corporate £25

Renewals & Standing Orders

Many members have renewed their subscription using standing orders and others have paid online using faster payments.

If you can pay this way it helps as it creates less work for the Committee.

If you are planning to renew, details may be found by [clicking here](#).

Helping the BAHS

The BAHS Committee has many things that it would like help with and you don't have to serve on the Committee!

History Centre

The History Centre is a small confined area. We are now open to individuals by appointment only. There is normally a charge to visitors. To book an appointment to visit the History Centre please view www.bahs.uk/history-centre/history-centre-openings.

History Centre Collection

The History Centre is always interested in items of historical relevance to the Blakeney Area. These may be old wills, deeds, postcards, Blakeney Regatta programmes, ... the list is endless.

Please don't bin it before checking if it is of interest to the History Centre.

Blakeney Area Historical Society

BAHS Committee

Chairman: Richard Kelham [Temporary] chair@bahs.uk

Secretary: Diana Cooke secretary-bahs@bahs.uk

History Centre: historycentre@bahs.uk

Membership Secretary: Bridget Candy membership@bahs.uk

Publications: Roger Bland publications@bahs.uk

Treasurer: Richard Daley treasurer@bahs.uk

Lecture Programme Manager: Roger Bland [Temporary] lecture.programme@bahs.uk

Sales Organiser: Jan Semple sales@bahs.uk

Website Organiser: Richard Daley webmaster@bahs.uk
